

A DECOMPOSITION ARCHITECTURE FOR AN MCU

ABSTRACT

The present invention allows the resources of multiple multipoint control units (MCUs) in a multipoint multimedia communication system. A plurality of multimedia terminals support different multimedia conferencing protocols, and a multipoint control unit communicates with a multipoint processor unit and with the multimedia terminals for signaling and call control. At least one multipoint processor unit communicates with the plurality of multimedia terminals for media and optionally call signaling and call control. The multipoint processor unit also communicates with the multipoint control unit for interfacing the call signaling and the call control information between said multipoint control unit and the terminals.